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Israelis to Share Lessons of War With Pentagon

Bid Is Dropped for New Accord on Intelligence

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WASHINGTON, March 21 — Israel agreed today to share with the United States information on Soviet military equipment and tactics gained from the Lebanon war without insisting on a new intelligence-sharing accord, American and Israeli officials said.

The decision by the Israeli Cabinet, at the initiative of Moshe Arens, the new Defense Minister, who had been Ambassador to the United States, appears to end a months-old dispute between the two Governments. It was hailed by a Defense Department official in Washington as "an encouraging development in relations."

Mr. Arens, according to an Israeli Embassy official, sent word to Secretary of State George P. Shultz and to Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger.

U.S. Team to Go to Israel

A four-man United States Air Force team is due to arrive in Israel early next month to begin going through the huge amount of information picked up by the Israelis in their encounters with Syrian forces in Lebanon, and in particular to get Israeli views of the latest Soviet military equipment used in combat by the Syrians.

A statement issued by the Israeli Defense Ministry said, "Israel believes that this important information that it possesses is of great value to the United States and will further tighten and strengthen the security and other relations between the two countries."

The Israeli and American defense departments have had strained relations for months. In addition to the problem on intelligence sharing, there have been charges by the American side of provocations by Israeli troops against United States Marines in Lebanon, and counter accusations that Americans were responsible for the confrontations by not agreeing to suitable forms of liaison.

Israeli and American officials credited the appointment of Mr. Arens as Defense Minister last month as being largely responsible for today's agreement. His predecessor, Ariel Sharon, had poor relations with Mr. Weinberger and other members of the Administration. Mr. Arens is credited by Administration officials with trying to avoid unnecessary rifts.

The agreement comes when the Administration is waiting for the Israeli Government to signal its views on the ideas presented to Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir last week by Mr. Shultz on ways of bringing about an accord on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon.

After the Lebanese fighting ended last August, the United States asked the Israelis about discussing the results of the combat, but Mr. Sharon did not officially invite a team until October. A group, headed by Andrew W. Marshall, an intelligence analyst, went to Israel in November and initialed a lengthy document in which the Israelis sought to make sure they benefited from any findings reached by the United States from the information.

But Mr. Weinberger decided last month not to accept the document because in his view it tied the United States to long-term commitments to Israel that he opposes, given the disagreements between the two Governments over the situation in Lebanon.

Late last month, after Mr. Arens replaced Mr. Sharon as Defense Minister, Mr. Arens discussed the unresolved intelligence-sharing situation with Mr. Weinberger and asked him to make a counter proposal. Mr. Weinberger decided to offer a brief proposal that in effect said the United States and Israel should continue to exchange information based on previous understandings.

After the Arab-Israeli wars in June 1967 and October 1973, the two countries shared the information gained by the Israelis in combat against Soviet-made equipment.

The Israeli Defense Ministry statement said that "Israel has decided to share with the United States the infor-

mation and lessons learned in the Peace for Galilee campaign."

It said that in recent months "misunderstandings have arisen regarding our desire to put all of the information at the disposal of the United States Government."

"We have decided," it said, "to make possible the start of this process of studying information on the basis of the agreements that have existed for quite a while now between the United States and Israel."

Pentagon officials said they regarded this as an acceptance of Mr. Weinberger's proposal, but the Israelis did not acknowledge that it was in response to that.